

# SEWSLC

Southeast Wisconsin Service Learning Consortium

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## Service Learning: An Introduction

*Education without direction is a one-sided value. Direct action without education is a meaningless expression of pure energy. -Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

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### What is Service-Learning?

Service-learning combines academic work with service to the community. Service-learning can be part of any academic discipline, can take place in any community, and can involve any student regardless of age, ambition, or ability. The key components of Service-learning are:

- ☞ Genuine Community need
- ☞ Clear connections to academics
- ☞ Student reflection on service experience
- ☞ A focus on civic responsibility
- ☞ A strong student voice in planning service activities
- ☞ Collaboration among stakeholders
- ☞ Evaluation of service and learning outcomes

### What are the Benefits of Service-Learning?

Service-learning can improve academic and social outcomes for students by providing them with opportunities to apply academic knowledge to real-world problems. Service-learning can help students develop civic responsibility, respect for diversity, leadership, and increased interest in their studies. Service-learning can also help students serve as a resource for their communities, enhancing the relationship of schools to the community.

### Resources

- ☞ National Service-Learning Clearinghouse:  
[www.servicelearning.org](http://www.servicelearning.org)
- ☞ University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Service-Learning page:  
[www.uwec.edu/Sl](http://www.uwec.edu/Sl)
- ☞ The National Service-Learning Exchange offers peer-based training and technical assistance, available by calling 1-877-572-3924.
- ☞ Department of Public Instruction Service-Learning website:  
[www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/bbfcsp/slhomepage.html](http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dltcl/bbfcsp/slhomepage.html)
- ☞ Department of Public Instruction *Wisconsin Toolkit for Service-Learning and Citizenship* to help you implement high-quality service-learning, available by calling 608-261-7494.
- ☞ National Service Learning Partnership:  
[www.service-learningpartnership.org](http://www.service-learningpartnership.org)
- ☞ National Center for Learning and Citizenship:  
[www.ecs.org/ecsmain.asp?page=/html/ProjectsPartners/nclc/nclc\\_main](http://www.ecs.org/ecsmain.asp?page=/html/ProjectsPartners/nclc/nclc_main)

### What is the Southeast Wisconsin Service Learning Consortium (SEWSLC)?

#### Vision

SEWSLC is composed of learning institutions, K-12 and higher education, striving to enhance student classroom achievements with applied community learning and to foster meaningful service-learning partnerships and to build the knowledge, skills, values and behaviors of effective citizenship. The Consortium will link the civic engagement efforts of the learning institutions and involve all age groups in the process. The consortium will promote civic responsibility and develop leadership skills that will impact communities positively.

#### Mission

SEWSLC will support educators and students in civic responsibility by linking classroom learning with applied community learning. Through structured service-learning experiences aligned with curriculum, students will develop habits of citizenship, improve leadership abilities, learn to work with people different from themselves and develop skills they need in the workplace through partnerships with their community.

The consortium will seek to add value to the teaching and learning process through the development and dissemination of research and teaching strategies, by serving as a clearing house for service-learning initiatives, and through the building of collaborations among community, school and higher education.

### Contact SEWSLC

Email to: [service.learning@greendale.k12.wi.us](mailto:service.learning@greendale.k12.wi.us)

### Visit the WiCC Website

[www.uwp.edu/departments/community.partnerships/wicampuscompact](http://www.uwp.edu/departments/community.partnerships/wicampuscompact)



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